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63-6711

30 August 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Special Group (5412) Meeting, Situation Room at the White House, 29 August 1963, 1430

NSC REVIEW
COMPLETED.

1. In attendance were Mr. McGeorge Bundy, Mr. Gilpatrick, Mr. Alexis Johnson, Mr. Tom Parrott and, for appropriate items, Colonel Steakley of JRC and [redacted] of CIA.

25X1

2. The monthly reconnaissance forecasts for both NRO and DOD were approved in toto, although Secretary Johnson withheld replenishing the Laos bank (since we still have a credit of one) until he had been briefed by Lundahl as to just how effective this photography was. He appears to have some doubt that we are getting anything that's worthwhile.

3. On the problem of negotiations for an [redacted] it was the consensus that we should not approach [redacted] at the present time for use of [redacted] unless there were overriding intelligence requirements approved by USIB at the next meeting. Gilpatrick showed me a memorandum from General Carroll urging that we get the photos and after the meeting I noted a somewhat less enthusiastic urging from Sheldon. While the Special Group did not seem to be enthusiastic about making the flights, they agreed to withhold judgment pending a USIB reaction from the meeting next Thursday. Please have it placed on the agenda for discussion.

25X1
25X1

4. There was some discussion on the support of autonomous anti-Castro groups and some concern as to what reactions we might expect from Castro. Mr. Bundy asked that this item be held over for the meeting next week at which time he would want to obtain Mr. McCone's views since Mr. McCone had stated that he wanted to take another look at the matter. The Group (particularly Johnson) did not seem to be enthusiastic about using [redacted]

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[redacted] There were warm remarks made about Mr. Pawley's capabilities although Bundy expressed some

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concern that since Pawley had been such a staunch supporter of the Agency and of any Governmental activities regardless of party lines, he might not be the proper man to use as a cutout. Please see that this item is placed on next week's Special Group (5412) agenda and that Mr. McCone has formulated his views.

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25X1

6. The minutes of the 15 August meeting were approved and I informed them that the sidewinder missile for the defensive armament for [] aircraft had already been compromised so there was no problem there.

25X1

7. The only discussion on the covert action program [] was Mr. Bundy's comment that for the first time the President had not questioned the magnitude of the expenditures.

25X1

8. Mr. [] reported on the two approved [] operations and Johnson questioned whether the leaving behind of equipment might be a form of subversion. [] assured him that lots of people leave behind equipment, particularly when they are getting shot at and he did not think there was a security problem here.

25X1

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9. The Group agreed that the Agency should prepare a memo or a report as to what reactions as to type, magnitude, and timing we might expect from Castro []. There was some thought that he might make some covert moves to embarrass us in Guantanamo, perhaps in connection with our water supply. Please have such a memorandum prepared.

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10. The meeting broke up in good order.

~~SECRET~~

Marshall S. Carter
Lieutenant General, USA
Acting Director

MSC: bfp

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